

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE MONROE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

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Board of Trustees Room, #Z-203
La-Z-Boy Center
5:00 p.m., July 9, 2014

Members present: William J. Bacarella Jr., Joseph N. Bellino Jr., William H. Braunlich (phone conference), James DeVries, Marjorie A. Kreps, Linda S. Lauer, Mary Kay Thayer

Also present: Randy Daniels, Ronald Campbell, Terry Cole, Peter Coomar, BJ Fischer (FLS Group), Dan Hamman, Barry Kinsey, Brian Lay, Molly McCutchan, Josh Myers, James Ross, Caitlin VanOverberghe (MEN), Joe Verkennes, Suzanne Wetzel, Grace Yackee, and Penny Dorcey-Naber (recording secretary)

1. Chair Bacarella connected with Mr. Braunlich at 5:01 p.m. via conference call. He called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the results of a millage survey we commissioned through FLS Group and to decide on the next steps.
2. Chair Bacarella polled the audience for comments; there were no comments.
3. President Quartey introduced B.J. Fischer of FLS Group. FLS Group helped us with our listening to and polling of the community. Before the board seriously considered pursuing a millage, the College wanted to understand what our community knows and values about Monroe County Community College (MCCC). In the past couple of weeks, President Quartey shared both a preliminary report and final survey report with the Board.

The results indicate that most residents in the community believe MCCC is a good value. Two-thirds of the College's constituents think MCCC provides an opportunity for many students to go to college that would not have otherwise. They also feel the college is important to attracting new businesses to the county. Two-thirds of residents think MCCC does a good job using its tax money. Seven in ten households in Monroe County have some association with the college. Repeatedly people indicated that education is important to people and that is why they value MCCC. They believe maintaining the high quality and affordability the College is known for is essential.

With additional revenue the College would prioritize the following areas: expanding and maintaining academic programs; expanding student success services; keeping MCCC affordable and student debt low; updating computer technology and equipment; and addressing critical facility needs.

The data suggests the residents of Monroe County are open to discussing a greater investment in MCCC, but frank, open, and aspirational conversation about the college's needs and our potential to serve the community need to take place.

Since 2008, the Board has had to approve austerity measure after austerity measure to balance the budget. It has been 34 years since the College has asked for additional money from the

community. The College cannot continue to maintain its high level of service without additional resources.

It was moved by Mrs. Thayer and seconded by Mr. Braunlich that the Board authorize the President and his administration to pursue placing a 1 mil property tax levy on the November ballot.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Yes: Kreps, Thayer, DeVries, Bellino, Lauer, Bacarella, Braunlich

No: None

The motion carried; seven yes, zero no.

It was moved by Mrs. Kreps and seconded by Mrs. Thayer that the meeting be adjourned.

The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Bacarella Jr.
Chair

Linda S. Lauer
Secretary

prd